

**Child Welfare Improvement Committee  
Indiana Court Improvement Program**

**MINUTES**

**Friday, June 5, 2015**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.**

1. Members Present. Heather Mollo (Chair), Leslie Dunn, Cathy Graham, Lisa Rich.
2. Staff Present. Mike Commons, Angela Reid-Brown.
3. Approval of minutes. The minutes from the October 3, 2014 meeting were approved.
4. Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act. The Committee reviewed the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (H.R. 2980) signed by President Obama on September 29, 2014. One of the bill's provision is the elimination of another planned permanent living arrangement (APPLA) as a permanency plan for children under age 16. Other provisions in the bill call for the implementation of a reasonable and prudent parent standard for foster parents to make parental decisions that maintain the health, safety, and best interests of a child; requires case plan/transitional services plan for children 14 and older be developed in consultation with the child and, at the option of the child, with up to two members of the case planning team who are chosen by the child and who are not a foster parent of, or caseworker for, the child. The case plan/transitional service plan must include a document that describes the rights of the child with respect to education, health, visitation, and court participation, the right to be provided with specified documents and the right to stay safe and avoid exploitation; and youth aging out of foster care must be provided with a birth certificate, social security card, driver's license or state ID card, health insurance information, and medical records. HEA 1434-2015 (DCS Bill) enacts many provisions of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act.
5. CIP Annual Meeting. Angela Reid-Brown reported the CIP Annual meeting is scheduled for June 9-11, 2015 in Washington, D.C. She reported that a three-member team consisting of Magistrate Mollo, DCS Director Bonaventura and Abby Kuzma with the Attorney General's office would be attending a special meeting at the White House on Human Trafficking.
6. CIP Court Performance Measures. Mike Commons reviewed the CIP Court Performance Measures data for federal fiscal years 2013 and 2014.
7. Statewide Conference. The Committee brainstormed ideas for topics for a statewide conference. Topic suggestions included human trafficking, legal orphans, permanency,

substance abuse or other topic that may be identified through the DCS Bi-Annual Plan or the CFSR scheduled for 2016. Cathy Graham suggested the statewide conference should allow members of the provider community to attend.

8. Legal Orphans Project.

- a. National GAL/CASA Outcome Data. Leslie Dunn reported the new GAL/CASA Optima case management system would allow GAL/CASA programs to measure outcomes.
- b. DCS/Court Data Exchange. Lisa Rich will bring federal measures to the next meeting. There are three measures that might be helpful for the Legal Orphans project. Mike Commons will see if he can run a search in Odyssey of the cases that have TPR ordered but wardship has not been terminated.

Future Meeting Dates:

August 1, 2014	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Indiana Judicial Center
October 3, 2014	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Indiana Judicial Center